Retire army officers/jawans

678. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated number of Jawans/officers who retire from the army service annually—indicate the number of disabled persons separately;

(b) what is the annual percentage of Jawans/officers who are rehabilitated after their retirement/having been discharged on account of disablity;

(c) what is the backlog of army jawans/officers/disabled persons which are seeking rehabilitation at the end of 1988; and

(d) whether any precise long/short term programme has been drawn up by Government to settle these persons suitably to supplement their pensions; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (d) Based on the figures for the last three years, i.e. 1986-88, the annual average number of jawans and officers who retired from the Army is 33878 and the average number of those disabled is 3890.

2. About 20-25,000 ex-Servicemen have been provided jobs annually which is about 45-50 per cent of those retiring. Of these, the percentage to disabled ex-Servicemen who have been rehabilitated, has been around 16-18 per cent every year against the annual registration of such personnel for employment. A total of approximately 2.6 lakhs ex-Servicemen, including disabled personnel from the three Services, were on the live registers of various Rajya Sainik Boards and the Directorate General of Resettlement, as on 30 June, 88.

3. Under the existing instructions, for the purpose of appointment to Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts under the Central Government, ex-Servicemen disabled during war or in peace time are accorded Priority I along with the retrenched employees of the Government. Further, upto 2 members of the families of Service personnel severely disabled (with over 50 per cent disability and who have become unfit for employment, the disability being attributable to military service) whether during war or peace time, are given Priority IIA. Disabled Service personnel are also eligible for relaxation in age and edcational qualifications.

4. In addition, self-employment is also encouraged under various schemes, like SEMFEX I & II, allotment of oil product agencies, UTI agencies, Jai Jawan Stalls, discarded Army surplus vehicles, type-writers/duplicators, priority allotment of three-wheeler scooters, contracts for transportation of LPG and other petroleum products in bulk, etc.

5. Training to disabled ex-Servicemen is imparted at Queen Mary's Technical Institute, Pune. The training covers both technical and non-technical trades. The training fee is financed by the Units/concerned Rajya Sainik Board.

Resistance against launching of Agni Missile

पारथेनियम पौधों के कारण स्वास्थ्य को खतरा

679. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल**: क्या **स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पारथेनियम एक जहरीला पौधा है और इसकी महक स्वास्थ्य के लिए खतरनाक है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि यह पौधा नई दिल्ली के नार्थ और साउथ एवेन्यू क्षेत्रों में बहुत अधिक पाया जाता है ;